

SLND-Guarantor
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mystudentloanonline.com

Prairie Publications

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NASFAA Unveils Web-based Training for Financial Aid Administrators

LearnStudentAid.org – the first learning community on the Web created by financial aid administrators for financial aid administrators – was unveiled this month during the annual conference of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA).

Financial aid administrators are expected to keep pace with the ever-changing laws and regulations – yet training is often unavailable and/or unaffordable. With LearnStudentAid.org, staff can participate in training from their office or home computer. Web-based training eliminates travel time and expenses and allows staff to be trained as soon as they are hired.

LearnStudentAid.org is different from other online training in that it is a “classroom” environment without the classroom. Each learner is assigned a mentor/moderator – an experienced financial aid administrator – who answers questions, guides the class through the course, and provides opportunity for interaction with other classmates via discussion forums and chat rooms.

The first four courses, offered beginning September 1, 2004 and the first of every month thereafter, are part of the Financial Aid Fundamental series. Additional courses will be unveiled next year.

For more information, course descriptions, and to register for courses, please visit www.LearnStudentAid.org.

Mindy Kaplan Eline, Director of Marketing - NASFAA

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PLUS MPN Reminder

The new PLUS MPN forms must be used for loans certified on or after July 1, 2004. As a result, if SLND receives a PLUS loan certified by a school on or after July 1 that is on the old PLUS common form, we will return it for completion on the new form. If your school still has the old forms on hand, please discard them.

DEAL Loan Process

Since BND's DEAL alternative loan requires a creditworthy applicant or cosigner, the processing period is longer, on average, than the federal student loan programs. When creditworthiness fails, SLND does not deny the DEAL loan, but instead gives the borrower the option to find a creditworthy cosigner. When a 15-day time period passes and the borrower has not provided a creditworthy cosigner, we will deny the DEAL loan and send a copy of the denial to the school. Once denied, the borrower may subsequently provide a creditworthy cosigner and the loan is approved. If this occurs, the school is notified of the subsequent approval.

“When creditworthiness fails, SLND does not deny the DEAL loan, but instead gives the borrower the option to find a creditworthy cosigner.”

The school will know the status of a DEAL loan as follows:

- 1) When the loan is denied after the 15-day waiting period, a copy of the denial letter is sent to the school.
- 2) When the loan is approved, the school official will see that the new loan is displayed on the guarantee screen of the student's account on mystudentloanonline.com. The school will also receive a fax of the approval.
- 3) When the loan is still in process, the loan will not yet be displayed on mystudentloanonline.com and/or a denial letter has not been sent to the school.

Holly Schirado, New Loans Supervisor - SLND

Spotlight on SLND!

Twenty-five years ago, **Kathy Knudson** joined the Student Loan Department as a Clerk I reviewing new loan applications. She worked in several areas within Student Loans before transferring to the State Land Loan Department (another area within Bank of North Dakota). It didn't take long and Kathy was back in Student Loans as Supervisor of Repayment. Her current position is as Computer Control Coordinator – she provides the link between the SLND staff and the Information Technology Services (IT) staff.



Kathy Knudson

Within SLND and IT, Kathy Knudson is known as the “Letter Lady.” These letters inform borrowers about their access to the Web-based system. She also spends much of her time writing up ‘bugtraqs’ which document the Web system issues found during testing.

“When I first started at the Bank, we were lucky to have a computer run on a weekly basis,” said Kathy. “I couldn’t even begin to think of the daily runs nor the instant processing that we now have with the Web.”

When not at work, Kathy spends her time with husband, Bill, and their three children, Josh, Trevor, and Sarah. The whole family is fond of their dogs, Niki and KoKo. They also enjoy their annual ski trips to Big Sky and Red Lodge in Montana.

Who’s Coming & Going at SLND!

Ginger Boor joins SLND-Guarantor as a temporary employee to assist during peak season processing. Ginger comes to BND from Command Labor and Staffing with a B.S. in Business Administration. She has many years of collections, accounting, and data entry experience.

Dorothy Schmitz returns to SLND-Guarantor to temporarily assist during peak season processing. Dorothy worked in SLND from January 1995 until October 2003 when she retired.

Elly LaPorte will work in SLND-Guarantor as a temporary employee. She replaces **Cassandra Jasper**, who left July 23 to begin a school internship. Elly comes to SLND from Spherion Staffing with a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting and Business. Elly has more than eight years of accounting, data entry, and office support experience.

Jane Mumford is a temporary employee assisting in the New Loans area of SLND during peak season processing.

We welcome you all to SLND!

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writer's opinion and
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construed as Student
Loans of North
Dakota policy unless
so stated.*



Upcoming Events

37th Annual ICBND Convention

August 15-17

Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck, ND

<http://www.icbnd.com/convention/index.htm>

September 2004 Career Fair Schedule

Mon 13	Hettinger	Hettinger High School	1:00 - 2:15 p.m.*
Tue 14	Dickinson	Wienbergen Gym	9:00 - 11:15 a.m.*
	Beulah	Beulah High School	1:00 - 2:30 p.m.*
Wed 15	Williston	Williston College Gym	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
	Stanley	Stanley High School	1:00 - 2:00 p.m.
	Minot	Magic City Campus Gym	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Thur 16	Minot	Magic City Campus Gym	8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Mon 20	Fargo/Moorhead	Concordia College	9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
	Wahpeton	NDSCS Act. Center	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
	Fargo/Moorhead	Concordia College	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Tue 21	LaMoure	LaMoure High School	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
	Valley City	VCSU Field House	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
Wed 22	Jamestown	JC's Hansen Center	9:15 - 10:45 a.m.
	Wishek	Armory	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
	Bismarck	Century High School	6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Thur 23	Bismarck	Century High School	8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
	Washburn	Washburn High School	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
Tue 28	Mayville	MSU Field House	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
	Grand Forks	UND	6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Wed 29	Grafton	Grafton High School	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
	Devils Lake	LRSC	1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
	Devils Lake	LRSC	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Thur 30	Harvey	Harvey High School	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
	Bottineau	MiSU-Bott. Thatcher Hall	1:00 - 2:15 p.m.

* Indicates Mountain Time